

## **ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1074**

DIGEST OF HB 1074 (Updated February 19, 2008 1:45 pm - DI 106)

Citations Affected: IC 35-44; IC 35-50.

Synopsis: Disarming a law enforcement officer. Makes it a Class C felony if a person knows that another person is a law enforcement officer or other officer required to carry a firearm and the person knowingly or intentionally takes or attempts to take a firearm or weapon from the officer or from the immediate proximity of the officer without the consent of the officer and while the officer is engaged in the performance of his or her official duties. Enhances this crime to a Class B felony if the officer is injured and a Class A felony if the officer dies or if the officer is injured and a firearm was taken. Allows a court to suspend only that part of a sentence that is in excess of the minimum sentence imposed on a person convicted of disarming a law enforcement officer.

Effective: July 1, 2008.

# Soliday, Lawson L, Hinkle, VanDenburgh

(SENATE SPONSORS — CHARBONNEAU, ARNOLD)

January 8, 2008, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary. January 22, 2008, amended, reported — Do Pass. January 24, 2008, read second time, amended, ordered engrossed. January 25, 2008, engrossed. January 28, 2008, read third time, passed. Yeas 89, nays 1.

SENATE ACTION

January 29, 2008, read first time and referred to Committee on Corrections, Criminal, and

February 21, 2008, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.



Second Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2008)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2007 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

## ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL No. 1074

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning criminal law and procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1	SECTION 1. IC 35-44-3-3.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
2	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
3	1, 2008]: Sec. 3.5. (a) As used in this section, "officer" includes the
4	following:
5	(1) A person employed by:
6	(A) the department of correction;
7	(B) a law enforcement agency;
8	(C) a probation department;
9	(D) a county jail; or
10	(E) a circuit, superior, county, probate, city, or town court;
11	who is required to carry a firearm in performance of the
12	person's official duties.
13	(2) A law enforcement officer.
14	(b) A person who:
15	(1) knows that another person is an officer; and
16	(2) knowingly or intentionally takes or attempts to take a
17	firearm (as defined in IC 35-47-1-5) or weapon that the officer



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1	is authorized to carry from the officer or from the immediate
2	proximity of the officer:
3	(A) without the consent of the officer; and
4	(B) while the officer is engaged in the performance of his
5	or her official duties;
6	commits disarming a law enforcement officer, a Class C felony.
7	However, the offense is a Class B felony if it results in serious
8	bodily injury to the officer, and the offense is a Class A felony if it
9	results in death to the officer or if a firearm (as defined in
10	IC 35-47-1-5) was taken and the offense results in serious bodily
11	injury to the officer.
12	SECTION 2. IC 35-50-2-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.216-2007,
13	SECTION 50, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
14	JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 2. (a) The court may suspend any part of a
15	sentence for a felony, except as provided in this section or in section
16	2.1 of this chapter.
17	(b) Except as provided in subsection (i), with respect to the
18	following crimes listed in this subsection, the court may suspend only
19	that part of the sentence that is in excess of the minimum sentence,
20	unless the court has approved placement of the offender in a forensic
21	diversion program under IC 11-12-3.7:
22	(1) The crime committed was a Class A felony or Class B felony
23	and the person has a prior unrelated felony conviction.
24	(2) The crime committed was a Class C felony and less than seven
25	(7) years have elapsed between the date the person was
26	discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever
27	is later, for a prior unrelated felony conviction and the date the
28	person committed the Class C felony for which the person is
29	being sentenced.
30	(3) The crime committed was a Class D felony and less than three
31	(3) years have elapsed between the date the person was
32	discharged from probation, imprisonment, or parole, whichever
33	is later, for a prior unrelated felony conviction and the date the
34	person committed the Class D felony for which the person is
35	being sentenced. However, the court may suspend the minimum
36	sentence for the crime only if the court orders home detention
37	under IC 35-38-1-21 or IC 35-38-2.5-5 instead of the minimum
38	sentence specified for the crime under this chapter.
39	(4) The felony committed was:
40	(A) murder (IC 35-42-1-1);
41	(B) battery (IC 35-42-2-1) with a deadly weapon or battery
42	causing death;



1	(C) sexual battery (IC 35-42-4-8) with a deadly weapon;
2	(D) kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2);
3	(E) confinement (IC 35-42-3-3) with a deadly weapon;
4	(F) rape (IC 35-42-4-1) as a Class A felony;
5	(G) criminal deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2) as a Class A
6	felony;
7	(H) except as provided in subsection (i), child molesting
8	(IC 35-42-4-3) as a Class A or Class B felony, unless:
9	(i) the felony committed was child molesting as a Class B
10	felony;
11	(ii) the victim was not less than twelve (12) years old at the
12	time the offense was committed;
13	(iii) the person is not more than four (4) years older than the
14	victim, or more than five (5) years older than the victim if
15	the relationship between the person and the victim was a
16	dating relationship or an ongoing personal relationship (not
17	including a family relationship);
18	(iv) the person did not have a position of authority or
19	substantial influence over the victim; and
20	(v) the person has not committed another sex offense (as
21	defined in IC 11-8-8-5.2) (including a delinquent act that
22	would be a sex offense if committed by an adult) against any
23	other person;
24	(I) robbery (IC 35-42-5-1) resulting in serious bodily injury or
25	with a deadly weapon;
26	(J) arson (IC 35-43-1-1) for hire or resulting in serious bodily
27	injury;
28	(K) burglary (IC 35-43-2-1) resulting in serious bodily injury
29	or with a deadly weapon;
30	(L) resisting law enforcement (IC 35-44-3-3) with a deadly
31	weapon;
32	(M) escape (IC 35-44-3-5) with a deadly weapon;
33	(N) rioting (IC 35-45-1-2) with a deadly weapon;
34	(O) dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug (IC 35-48-4-1) if the
35	court finds the person possessed a firearm (as defined in
36	IC 35-47-1-5) at the time of the offense, or the person
37	delivered or intended to deliver to a person under eighteen
38	(18) years of age at least three (3) years junior to the person
39	and was on a school bus or within one thousand (1,000) feet
40	of:
41	(i) school property;
42	(ii) a public park:



1	(iii) a family housing complex; or	
2	(iv) a youth program center;	
3	(P) dealing in methamphetamine (IC 35-48-4-1.1) if the court	
4	finds the person possessed a firearm (as defined in	
5	IC 35-47-1-5) at the time of the offense, or the person	
6	delivered or intended to deliver the methamphetamine pure or	
7	adulterated to a person under eighteen (18) years of age at	
8	least three (3) years junior to the person and was on a school	
9	bus or within one thousand (1,000) feet of:	
10	(i) school property;	4
11	(ii) a public park;	
12	(iii) a family housing complex; or	
13	(iv) a youth program center;	
14	(Q) dealing in a schedule I, II, or III controlled substance	
15	(IC 35-48-4-2) if the court finds the person possessed a firearm	
16	(as defined in IC 35-47-1-5) at the time of the offense, or the	4
17	person delivered or intended to deliver to a person under	
18	eighteen (18) years of age at least three (3) years junior to the	
19	person and was on a school bus or within one thousand (1,000)	
20	feet of:	
21	(i) school property;	
22	(ii) a public park;	
23	(iii) a family housing complex; or	
24	(iv) a youth program center;	
25	(R) an offense under IC 9-30-5 (operating a vehicle while	
26	intoxicated) and the person who committed the offense has	
27	accumulated at least two (2) prior unrelated convictions under	T T
28	IC 9-30-5;	
29	(S) an offense under IC 9-30-5-5(b) (operating a vehicle while	
30	intoxicated causing death); or	
31	(T) aggravated battery (IC 35-42-2-1.5); or	
32	(U) disarming a law enforcement officer (IC 35-44-3-3.5).	
33	(c) Except as provided in subsection (e), whenever the court	
34	suspends a sentence for a felony, it shall place the person on probation	
35	under IC 35-38-2 for a fixed period to end not later than the date that	
36	the maximum sentence that may be imposed for the felony will expire.	
37	(d) The minimum sentence for a person convicted of voluntary	
38	manslaughter may not be suspended unless the court finds at the	
39	sentencing hearing that the crime was not committed by means of a	
40	deadly weapon.	
41	(e) Whenever the court suspends that part of the sentence of a sex	
42	or violent offender (as defined in IC 11-8-8-5) that is suspendible under	



1	subsection (b), the court shall place the sex or violent offender on	
2	probation under IC 35-38-2 for not more than ten (10) years.	
3	(f) An additional term of imprisonment imposed under	
4	IC 35-50-2-11 may not be suspended.	
5	(g) A term of imprisonment imposed under IC 35-47-10-6 or	
6	IC 35-47-10-7 may not be suspended if the commission of the offense	
7	was knowing or intentional.	
8	(h) A term of imprisonment imposed for an offense under	
9	IC $35-48-4-6(b)(1)(B)$ or IC $35-48-4-6.1(b)(1)(B)$ may not be	
10	suspended.	
11	(i) If a person is:	
12	(1) convicted of child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3) as a Class A	
13	felony against a victim less than twelve (12) years of age; and	
14	(2) at least twenty-one (21) years of age;	
15	the court may suspend only that part of the sentence that is in excess of	_
16	thirty (30) years.	



#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred House Bill 1074, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 1, line 14, after "takes" insert "or attempts to take".

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1074 as introduced.)

LAWSON L, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 9, nays 0.

### **HOUSE MOTION**

Mr. Speaker: I move that House Bill 1074 be amended to read as follows:

Page 5, after line 14, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"SECTION 3. IC 35-50-2-9, AS AMENDED BY P.L.99-2007, SECTION 213, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9. (a) Except as provided in subsection (m), this section does not apply to a defendant described in section 9.5 of this chapter. The state may seek either a death sentence or a sentence of life imprisonment without parole for murder by alleging, on a page separate from the rest of the charging instrument, the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances listed in subsection (b). In the sentencing hearing after a person is convicted of murder, the state must prove beyond a reasonable doubt the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances alleged. However, the state may not proceed against a defendant under this section if a court determines at a pretrial hearing under IC 35-36-9 that the defendant is an individual with mental retardation.

- (b) The aggravating circumstances are as follows:
  - (1) The defendant committed the murder by intentionally killing the victim while committing or attempting to commit any of the following:
    - (A) Arson (IC 35-43-1-1).
    - (B) Burglary (IC 35-43-2-1).
    - (C) Child molesting (IC 35-42-4-3).
    - (D) Criminal deviate conduct (IC 35-42-4-2).

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- (E) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
- (F) Rape (IC 35-42-4-1).
- (G) Robbery (IC 35-42-5-1).
- (H) Carjacking (IC 35-42-5-2).
- (I) Criminal gang activity (IC 35-45-9-3).
- (J) Dealing in cocaine or a narcotic drug (IC 35-48-4-1).
- (2) The defendant committed the murder by the unlawful detonation of an explosive with intent to injure person or damage property.
- (3) The defendant committed the murder by lying in wait.
- (4) The defendant who committed the murder was hired to kill.
- (5) The defendant committed the murder by hiring another person to kill.
- (6) The victim of the murder was a corrections employee, probation officer, parole officer, community corrections worker, home detention officer, fireman, **or** judge, <del>or law enforcement officer,</del> and either:
  - (A) the victim was acting in the course of duty; or
  - (B) the murder was motivated by an act the victim performed while acting in the course of duty.
- (7) The defendant has been convicted of another murder.
- (8) The defendant has committed another murder, at any time, regardless of whether the defendant has been convicted of that other murder.
- (9) The defendant was:
  - (A) under the custody of the department of correction;
  - (B) under the custody of a county sheriff;
  - (C) on probation after receiving a sentence for the commission of a felony; or
  - (D) on parole;
- at the time the murder was committed.
- (10) The defendant dismembered the victim.
- (11) The defendant burned, mutilated, or tortured the victim while the victim was alive.
- (12) The victim of the murder was less than twelve (12) years of age.
- (13) The victim was a victim of any of the following offenses for which the defendant was convicted:
  - (A) Battery as a Class D felony or as a Class C felony under IC 35-42-2-1.
  - (B) Kidnapping (IC 35-42-3-2).
  - (C) Criminal confinement (IC 35-42-3-3).









- (D) A sex crime under IC 35-42-4.
- (14) The victim of the murder was listed by the state or known by the defendant to be a witness against the defendant and the defendant committed the murder with the intent to prevent the person from testifying.
- (15) The defendant committed the murder by intentionally discharging a firearm (as defined in IC 35-47-1-5):
  - (A) into an inhabited dwelling; or
  - (B) from a vehicle.
- (16) The victim of the murder was pregnant and the murder resulted in the intentional killing of a fetus that has attained viability (as defined in IC 16-18-2-365).
- (c) The mitigating circumstances that may be considered under this section are as follows:
  - (1) The defendant has no significant history of prior criminal conduct.
  - (2) The defendant was under the influence of extreme mental or emotional disturbance when the murder was committed.
  - (3) The victim was a participant in or consented to the defendant's conduct.
  - (4) The defendant was an accomplice in a murder committed by another person, and the defendant's participation was relatively minor
  - (5) The defendant acted under the substantial domination of another person.
  - (6) The defendant's capacity to appreciate the criminality of the defendant's conduct or to conform that conduct to the requirements of law was substantially impaired as a result of mental disease or defect or of intoxication.
  - (7) The defendant was less than eighteen (18) years of age at the time the murder was committed.
  - (8) Any other circumstances appropriate for consideration.
- (d) If the defendant was convicted of murder in a jury trial, the jury shall reconvene for the sentencing hearing. If the trial was to the court, or the judgment was entered on a guilty plea, the court alone shall conduct the sentencing hearing. The jury or the court may consider all the evidence introduced at the trial stage of the proceedings, together with new evidence presented at the sentencing hearing. The court shall instruct the jury concerning the statutory penalties for murder and any other offenses for which the defendant was convicted, the potential for consecutive or concurrent sentencing, and the availability of good time credit and clemency. The court shall instruct the jury that, in order for











the jury to recommend to the court that the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole should be imposed, the jury must find at least one (1) aggravating circumstance beyond a reasonable doubt as described in subsection (1) and shall provide a special verdict form for each aggravating circumstance alleged. The defendant may present any additional evidence relevant to:

- (1) the aggravating circumstances alleged; or
- (2) any of the mitigating circumstances listed in subsection (c).
- (e) For a defendant sentenced after June 30, 2002, except as provided by IC 35-36-9, if the hearing is by jury, the jury shall recommend to the court whether the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole, or neither, should be imposed. The jury may recommend:
  - (1) the death penalty; or
  - (2) life imprisonment without parole;
- only if it makes the findings described in subsection (1). If the jury reaches a sentencing recommendation, the court shall sentence the defendant accordingly. After a court pronounces sentence, a representative of the victim's family and friends may present a statement regarding the impact of the crime on family and friends. The impact statement may be submitted in writing or given orally by the representative. The statement shall be given in the presence of the defendant.
- (f) If a jury is unable to agree on a sentence recommendation after reasonable deliberations, the court shall discharge the jury and proceed as if the hearing had been to the court alone.
- (g) If the hearing is to the court alone, except as provided by IC 35-36-9, the court shall:
  - (1) sentence the defendant to death; or
- (2) impose a term of life imprisonment without parole; only if it makes the findings described in subsection (1).
- (h) If a court sentences a defendant to death, the court shall order the defendant's execution to be carried out not later than one (1) year and one (1) day after the date the defendant was convicted. The supreme court has exclusive jurisdiction to stay the execution of a death sentence. If the supreme court stays the execution of a death sentence, the supreme court shall order a new date for the defendant's execution.
- (i) If a person sentenced to death by a court files a petition for post-conviction relief, the court, not later than ninety (90) days after the date the petition is filed, shall set a date to hold a hearing to consider the petition. If a court does not, within the ninety (90) day period, set

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the date to hold the hearing to consider the petition, the court's failure to set the hearing date is not a basis for additional post-conviction relief. The attorney general shall answer the petition for post-conviction relief on behalf of the state. At the request of the attorney general, a prosecuting attorney shall assist the attorney general. The court shall enter written findings of fact and conclusions of law concerning the petition not later than ninety (90) days after the date the hearing concludes. However, if the court determines that the petition is without merit, the court may dismiss the petition within ninety (90) days without conducting a hearing under this subsection.

- (j) A death sentence is subject to automatic review by the supreme court. The review, which shall be heard under rules adopted by the supreme court, shall be given priority over all other cases. The supreme court's review must take into consideration all claims that the:
  - (1) conviction or sentence was in violation of the:
    - (A) Constitution of the State of Indiana; or
    - (B) Constitution of the United States;
  - (2) sentencing court was without jurisdiction to impose a sentence; and
  - (3) sentence:
    - (A) exceeds the maximum sentence authorized by law; or
    - (B) is otherwise erroneous.

If the supreme court cannot complete its review by the date set by the sentencing court for the defendant's execution under subsection (h), the supreme court shall stay the execution of the death sentence and set a new date to carry out the defendant's execution.

- (k) A person who has been sentenced to death and who has completed state post-conviction review proceedings may file a written petition with the supreme court seeking to present new evidence challenging the person's guilt or the appropriateness of the death sentence if the person serves notice on the attorney general. The supreme court shall determine, with or without a hearing, whether the person has presented previously undiscovered evidence that undermines confidence in the conviction or the death sentence. If necessary, the supreme court may remand the case to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing to consider the new evidence and its effect on the person's conviction and death sentence. The supreme court may not make a determination in the person's favor nor make a decision to remand the case to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing without first providing the attorney general with an opportunity to be heard on the matter.
  - (1) Before a sentence may be imposed under this section, the jury,







in a proceeding under subsection (e), or the court, in a proceeding under subsection (g), must find that:

- (1) the state has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances listed in subsection (b) exists; and
- (2) any mitigating circumstances that exist are outweighed by the aggravating circumstance or circumstances.
- (m) The state may proceed against a defendant who is alleged to have committed murder and at least one (1) aggravating circumstance described in section 9.5(a) of this chapter and in subsection (b). If the state proceeds against a defendant who is alleged to have committed murder and at least one (1) aggravating circumstance described in section 9.5(a) of this chapter and in subsection (b), the procedures described in:
  - (1) this section apply to the proceedings concerning the aggravating circumstances described in subsection (b); and (2) section 9.5 of this chapter apply to the proceedings concerning the aggravating circumstances described in subsection (b).

Procedures described in this section and section 9.5 of this chapter shall be combined if they are not inconsistent with each other.

SECTION 4. IC 35-50-2-9.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008]: Sec. 9.5. (a) If the prosecuting attorney has reason to believe that the defendant committed murder and the victim was a law enforcement officer:

- (1) acting in the line of duty (including an off duty officer who identified himself or herself as a law enforcement officer); or
- (2) whose murder was motivated by an act the law enforcement officer performed while acting in the course of duty:

the state shall seek either a death sentence or a sentence of life imprisonment without parole for murder by alleging the existence of one (1) or both of these aggravating circumstances on a page separate from the rest of the charging instrument. However, the state may not proceed against a defendant under this section if a court determines at a pretrial hearing under IC 35-36-9 that the defendant is a mentally retarded individual.

(b) If the defendant was convicted of murder in a jury trial, the jury shall reconvene for the sentencing hearing. If the trial was to the court, or the judgment was entered on a guilty plea, the court alone shall conduct the sentencing hearing. The jury or the court











may consider all the evidence introduced at the trial stage of the proceedings, together with new evidence presented at the sentencing hearing. The court shall instruct the jury concerning the statutory penalties for murder and any other offenses for which the defendant was convicted, the potential for consecutive or concurrent sentencing, and the availability of good time credit and clemency. The court shall instruct the jury that, in order for the jury to recommend to the court that the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole should be imposed, the jury must find beyond a reasonable doubt the existence of at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances described in subsection (a), and shall provide a special verdict form for these aggravating circumstances. The defendant may present any additional evidence relevant to:

- (1) the aggravating circumstances alleged; or
- (2) any of the mitigating circumstances listed in subsection (c).
- (c) The mitigating circumstances that may be considered under this section are as follows:
  - (1) The defendant has no significant history of prior criminal conduct.
  - (2) The defendant was under the influence of extreme mental or emotional disturbance when the murder was committed.
  - (3) The victim was a participant in or consented to the defendant's conduct.
  - (4) The defendant was an accomplice in a murder committed by another person, and the defendant's participation was relatively minor.
  - (5) The defendant acted under the substantial domination of another person.
  - (6) The defendant's capacity to appreciate the criminality of the defendant's conduct or to conform that conduct to the requirements of law was substantially impaired as a result of mental disease or defect or of intoxication.
  - (7) The defendant was less than eighteen (18) years of age at the time the murder was committed.
  - (8) Any other circumstances appropriate for consideration.
- (d) Except as provided by IC 35-36-9, if the hearing is by jury, the jury shall recommend to the court whether the death penalty or life imprisonment without parole should be imposed. The jury may recommend:
  - (1) the death penalty; or
  - (2) life imprisonment without parole;

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only if it makes the findings described in subsection (k). If the jury makes the findings described in subsection (k), the jury may not recommend that the defendant be sentenced to a term of years. If the state seeks a sentence of life imprisonment without parole and does not seek the death penalty, the jury shall recommend a sentence of life imprisonment without parole if it makes the findings described in subsection (k). If the jury reaches a sentencing recommendation, the court shall sentence the defendant accordingly. After a court pronounces sentence, a representative of the victim's family and friends may present a statement regarding the impact of the crime on family and friends. The impact statement may be submitted in writing or given orally by the representative. The statement shall be given in the presence of the defendant.

- (e) If a jury is unable to agree on a sentence recommendation after reasonable deliberations, the court shall discharge the jury and proceed as if the hearing had been to the court alone.
- (f) If the hearing is to the court alone, except as provided by IC 35-36-9, the court shall:
  - (1) sentence the defendant to death; or
- (2) impose a term of life imprisonment without parole; if it makes the findings described in subsection (k). If the court makes the findings described in subsection (k), the court may not sentence the defendant to a term of years. If the state seeks a sentence of life imprisonment without parole and does not seek the death penalty, the court shall impose a sentence of life imprisonment without parole if it makes the findings described in subsection (k).
- (g) If a court sentences a defendant to death, the court shall order the defendant's execution to be carried out not later than one (1) year and one (1) day after the date the defendant was convicted. The supreme court has exclusive jurisdiction to stay the execution of a death sentence. If the supreme court stays the execution of a death sentence, the supreme court shall order a new date for the defendant's execution.
- (h) If a person sentenced to death by a court files a petition for postconviction relief, the court, not later than ninety (90) days after the date the petition is filed, shall set a date to hold a hearing to consider the petition. If a court does not, within the ninety (90) day period, set the date to hold the hearing to consider the petition, the court's failure to set the hearing date is not a basis for additional postconviction relief. The attorney general shall answer the









petition for postconviction relief on behalf of the state. At the request of the attorney general, a prosecuting attorney shall assist the attorney general. The court shall enter written findings of fact and conclusions of law concerning the petition not later than ninety (90) days after the date the hearing concludes. However, if the court determines that the petition is without merit, the court may dismiss the petition within ninety (90) days without conducting a hearing under this subsection.

- (i) A death sentence is subject to automatic review by the supreme court. The review, which shall be heard under rules adopted by the supreme court, shall be given priority over all other cases. The supreme court's review must take into consideration all claims that the:
  - (1) conviction or sentence was in violation of the:
    - (A) Constitution of the State of Indiana; or
    - (B) Constitution of the United States;
  - (2) sentencing court was without jurisdiction to impose a sentence; and
  - (3) sentence:
    - (A) exceeds the maximum sentence authorized by law; or
    - (B) is otherwise erroneous.

If the supreme court cannot complete its review by the date set by the sentencing court for the defendant's execution under subsection (g), the supreme court shall stay the execution of the death sentence and set a new date to carry out the defendant's execution.

- (j) A person who has been sentenced to death and who has completed state postconviction review proceedings may file a written petition with the supreme court seeking to present new evidence challenging the person's guilt or the appropriateness of the death sentence if the person serves notice on the attorney general. The supreme court shall determine, with or without a hearing, whether the person has presented previously undiscovered evidence that undermines confidence in the conviction or the death sentence. If necessary, the supreme court may remand the case to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing to consider the new evidence and its effect on the person's conviction and death sentence. The supreme court may not make a determination in the person's favor nor make a decision to remand the case to the trial court for an evidentiary hearing without first providing the attorney general with an opportunity to be heard on the matter.
- (k) Before a sentence may be imposed under this section, the jury, in a proceeding under subsection (d), or the court, in a









proceeding under subsection (f), must find that the state has proved beyond a reasonable doubt that at least one (1) of the aggravating circumstances listed in subsection (a) exists.

- (l) The state may proceed against a defendant who is alleged to have committed murder and at least one (1) aggravating circumstance described in subsection (a) and in section 9(b) of this chapter. If the state proceeds against a defendant who is alleged to have committed murder and at least one (1) aggravating circumstance described in subsection (a) and in section 9(b) of this chapter, the procedures described in:
  - (1) this section apply to the proceedings concerning the aggravating circumstances described in subsection (a); and
  - (2) section 9 of this chapter apply to the proceedings concerning the aggravating circumstances described in section 9(b) of this chapter.

Procedures described in this section and section 9 of this chapter shall be combined if they are not inconsistent with each other.

SECTION 5. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2008] IC 35-50-2-9, as amended by this act, and IC 35-50-2-9.5, as added by this act, apply only to crimes committed after June 30, 2008.".

(Reference is to HB 1074 as printed January 22, 2008.)

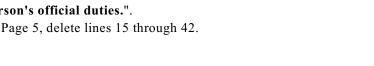
WALORSKI

#### COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Corrections, Criminal. and Civil Matters, to which was referred House Bill No. 1074, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, line 10, delete "." and insert ";".

Page 1, between lines 10 and 11, begin a new line block indented and insert "who is required to carry a firearm in performance of the person's official duties.".













Delete pages 6 through 14.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1074 as reprinted January 25, 2008.)

STEELE, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0.

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